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On DECEMBER 17, 2003

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Nancy Pizzo  
NANCY PIZZO

Attorney Docket No.: 00287500482003  
Client Ref. No.: 3026

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C. B. and  
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### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

PHILIP S. GREEN

Application No.: 08/709,930

Filed: September 9, 1996

For: SURGICAL SYSTEM

Examiner: GARLAND, STEVEN

T.C./Art Unit: 2125

#### AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed June 17, 2003, please enter the following amendments and remarks:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in a listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 7 of this paper.